

Thomas Williams House
HA 1909

This large, sparsely decorated circa 1895 house is located on the east side of Main Street in the village of Cardiff, Maryland. It is a plain, irregularly-massed structure which represents the transition between the Victorian era and the return to classical, neo-colonial lines of the early twentieth century. As with the majority of houses in the town, slate has a prominent place among the building materials of this structure in its use in the foundation and roof.

The adjacent towns of Whiteford, Cardiff, and Delta (PA) developed primarily from the region's tremendous slate industry, which attracted workers and their families from the slate quarries of Wales. The three linear, connecting towns developed rapidly during the second half of the nineteenth century, resulting in the development of much of Cardiff in the late nineteenth century. The original owner of this house, Thomas Williams, was undoubtedly one of many Welsh quarrymen who immigrated to the region seeking further opportunities.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. HA 1909

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Thomas Williams House

2. Location

street & number 1627 Main Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Cardiff

___ vicinity of

congressional district 5th

state Maryland

county Harford

3. Classification

Category☐ district☒ building(s)☐ structure☐ site☐ object**Ownership**☒ public☒ private☐ both**Public Acquisition**☐ in process☐ being considered☒ not applicable**Status**☒ occupied☐ unoccupied☐ work in progress**Accessible**☐ yes: restricted☐ yes: unrestricted☒ no**Present Use**☐ agriculture☐ commercial☐ educational☐ entertainment☐ government☐ industrial☐ military☐ museum☐ park☒ private residence☐ religious☐ scientific☐ transportation☐ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name David S. and Mary A. Smith

street & number same

telephone no.: (410)836-1531

city, town Cardiff

state and zip code Md, 21024

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse

liber HDC 1047

street & number 20 W. Courtland Pl.

folio 344

city, town Bel Air

state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title none

date

☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. HA 1909

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This turn-of-the-century house is located on the east side of Main Street in the village of Cardiff, Maryland. The main house is a large three bays by two with a two-story north L appendage to the rear of the building and an open, shed-roofed porch running the length of the west, main facade. The main roof has a north-south ridge with a projecting gable capping the south and middle bays. A second-story three-sided bay window is centered directly under the gable, and a double-window dormer to the north provides visual balance. Telescoping one-story extensions project from the L appendage. Both roof and foundation are of the region's world-renowned slate. The house has been re-sided with gold-colored vinyl.

The main entrance is located at the north bay of the main facade and has a multi-light door, transom, and sidelights. Continuing on the main facade, windows delineated the remaining lower two bays, the upper north bay, and the three panels of the bay window. All windows ^{are} replaced 6/6 sash. A 16/1 sash is centered on the projecting gable, and the double windows of the dormer are 9/1. The square panes of these multi-light windows provide the only ornamentation to the house.

The south endwall of the main house has windows in both of the upper and lower bays, with a double in the lower east, and a small double centered on the gable. The north endwall and shallow L appendage have windows articulating the two upper and lower bays of the main house and single upper and lower bay of the appendage. A small, square window between floors of the main house indicates the stairwell.

8. Significance

Survey No. HA 1909

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This large, sparsely decorated circa 1895 house represents the transition between the Victorian era and the return to classical, neo-colonial lines of the early twentieth century. Built with a desire for light and ventilation, the many windows and porches were typical of the era. As with the majority of houses in the town, slate has a prominent place among the building materials of this structure in its use in the foundation and roof.

The adjacent towns of Whiteford, Cardiff, and Delta (PA) developed primarily from the region's tremendous slate industry, which attracted workers and their families from the slate quarries of Wales. The three linear, connecting towns developed rapidly during the second half of the nineteenth century, resulting in the development of much of Cardiff in the late nineteenth century. The original owner of this house, Thomas Williams, was undoubtedly one of many Welsh quarrymen who immigrated to the region seeking further opportunities.

Originally owned by Thomas Hawkins (farmer) in a patented land grant known as "Hawkins Chance", this land was part of the tract sold by the Hawkins family to Rowland Parry, a Welsh quarry owner who operated one of the first prominent commercial quarries in the area. It was Parry who exhibited Peach Bottom slate in the London Crystal Palace exposition in 1850, winning it international recognition as the world's finest slate. "Hawkins Chance" was divided and sold in pieces, passing mostly through the hands of Parry's relatives and countrymen in various forms. This lot was created from two parcels, partly from the 17 acres of South Delta Land Company land and partly from Margaret Parry's parcel that she was allotted after her husband, Richard, died.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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See additional sheets

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .219 acresQuadrangle name DeltaQuadrangle scale 24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

Zone	Easting			Northing					

B

Zone	Easting			Northing					

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Parcel 249 on Tax Map 5, as provided in accompanying map.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state none code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dianne Klairorganization Harford County Planning and Zoning date September 1995street & number 220 S. Main Street telephone (410)638-3103city or town Bel Air state MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

THOMAS WILLIAMS HOUSE
Title Search

HDC 1047/344	November 14, 1977	Grantor: Fulton L. and Dixie L. Bosley Grantee: David S. and Mary A. Smith Granted: town lot fronting 60' on Main St., with improvements (created from 2 parcels)
HDC 946/63	February 28, 1974	Grantor: Charles H. and Sara W. Robinson Grantee: Fulton L. and Dixie L. Bosley Granted: same
GRG 631/173	October 7, 1963	Grantor: Helen M. McConkey (widow) Grantee: Charles H. and Sara W. Robinson Granted: same
(Unknown)	August 30, 1950	Grantor: Helen M. McConkey Grantee: Isabelle Leiphart et al. Granted: same Subject to a life estate reserved by Helen M. McConkey.
GCB 290/237	July 30, 1945	Grantor: Florence D. and Harry Robinson et al. (heirs to William B. Davis) Grantee: Helen M. McConkey Granted: same
JAR 162/415	March 4, 1919	Grantor: Lewis and Chloe E. Blakey Grantee: William B. Davis Granted: same
JAR 137/372	July 29, 1912	Grantor: Thomas J. Williams (widower) Grantee: Lewis J. Blakey Granted: Two contiguous parcels, fronting 60' on Main St. conveyed in two deeds:
ALJ 71/277 (1)	July 6, 1891	Grantor: Stevenson A. Williams, Trustee, et al. (Equity K No. 145/52, Elizabeth J. Parry v. Margaret Parry et al.) Grantee: Thomas J. Williams
ALJ 71/102 (2)	May 16, 1891	Grantor: Margaret Parry Grantee: Thomas J. Williams Granted: lot fronting Main St. 25' for \$10.00

ALJ 71/104 (2)	May 9, 1891	Grantor: Stevenson A. Williams, Trustee (Equity K No. 145/52, Elizabeth J. Parry v. Margaret Parry et al.) Grantee: Margaret Parry Granted: lot fronting Main St. 200' for \$466.00
Will Records WS 10/440	September 12, 1888	John Parry, quarryman, bequeaths: To his daughter, Elizabeth, the house in which he resides and the 84' by 400' lot on which it stands. To his son, Richard Parry, all his remaining lands, approximately 17 acres To each of his children, Mary Williams, John, Richard, Jacob, and Elizabeth Parry 1/6 of his shares in the Welsh Slate Company of Harford County.
ALJ 28/407	May 14, 1873	Grantor: Hugh E. Hughes Grantee: John Parry Granted: 10 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$1050.00
ALJ 28/407	May 14, 1873	Grantor: Humphrey R. and Jane H. Lloyd Grantee: John Parry Granted: 2 acres of "Hawkins Chance" with improvements, on west side of Main St. (same as ALJ 25/346) for \$1200.00
ALJ 25/346	April 11, 1871	Grantor: Richard Hughes and wife Grantee: Jane H. Lloyd (daughter) Granted: 2 parcels of "Hawkins Chance", 1). 5 acres 105 perches and 2). 2 acres 1 perch (see ALJ 9/29)
ALJ 9/30	May 29, 1857	Grantor: Richard Hughes et al. Grantee: John and Ellin Parry Granted: 8 acres 35 perches of "Hawkins Chance" for \$500.00
ALJ 9/29	May 29, 1857	Grantor: John Parry Grantee: Richard Hughes Granted: 2 parcels of "Hawkins Chance", 1). 5 acres 105 perches and 2). 2 acres 1 perch
HDG 36/424	July 27, 1850	Grantor: Ro(w)land and Anne Parry Grantee: John Parry and Richard Hughes Granted: 3 1/2 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$350.00
HDG 36/215	February 5, 1850	Grantor: Rowland Perry Grantee: John Perry and Richard Hughes Granted: 12 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$600.00

HDG 36/214 (indenture)	February 5, 1850	Grantor: Benjamin Williams Grantee: John Perry et al. Granted: 12 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$200.00
HDG 36/212	January 22, 1850	Grantor: Archibald A. and Nancy Hawkins Grantee: Rowland Perry (Parry) Granted: part of "Hawkins Chance" for \$850.00, acreage unknown
HDG 34/492	February 9, 1849	Grantor: Edward Proctor et al. Grantee: Archibald A. Hawkins Granted: "Hawkins Chance", being part of Thomas Hawkins landholdings; 74 acres 5 perches
HD 14/336	August 3, 1831	Grantor: Isaac Hawkins, heir to Thomas Hawkins Grantee: Thomas Proctor, heir to Edward Proctor Granted: The eighth part of land tracts "Hawkins Chance", "Williams Birthright", Mount Pleasant", and "Montgomerys Delight" . The four tracts contain 188 acres total. No mention of "eighth part" acreage.
Land Tract, Patented	After March 1774, when Harford est.	"Hawkins Chance", tract of 74 acres 5 perches granted to Thomas Hawkins. Located on the Maryland and Pennsylvania line at the north end of present day Cardiff. Divided, sold, and reworked often.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Common Houses in America's Small Towns: The Atlantic Seaboard to the Mississippi Valley, John A. Jakle, Robert W. Bastian, and Douglas K. Meyer. 1989.

The Comfortable House: North American Suburban Architecture 1890-1930, Alan Gowans. 1986

Delta Centennial, A souvenir book from the 1953 centennial celebration which was organized by the Delta-Cardiff Fire Company.

Conversation with Mrs. Darcy Lloyd, April 11, 1995.

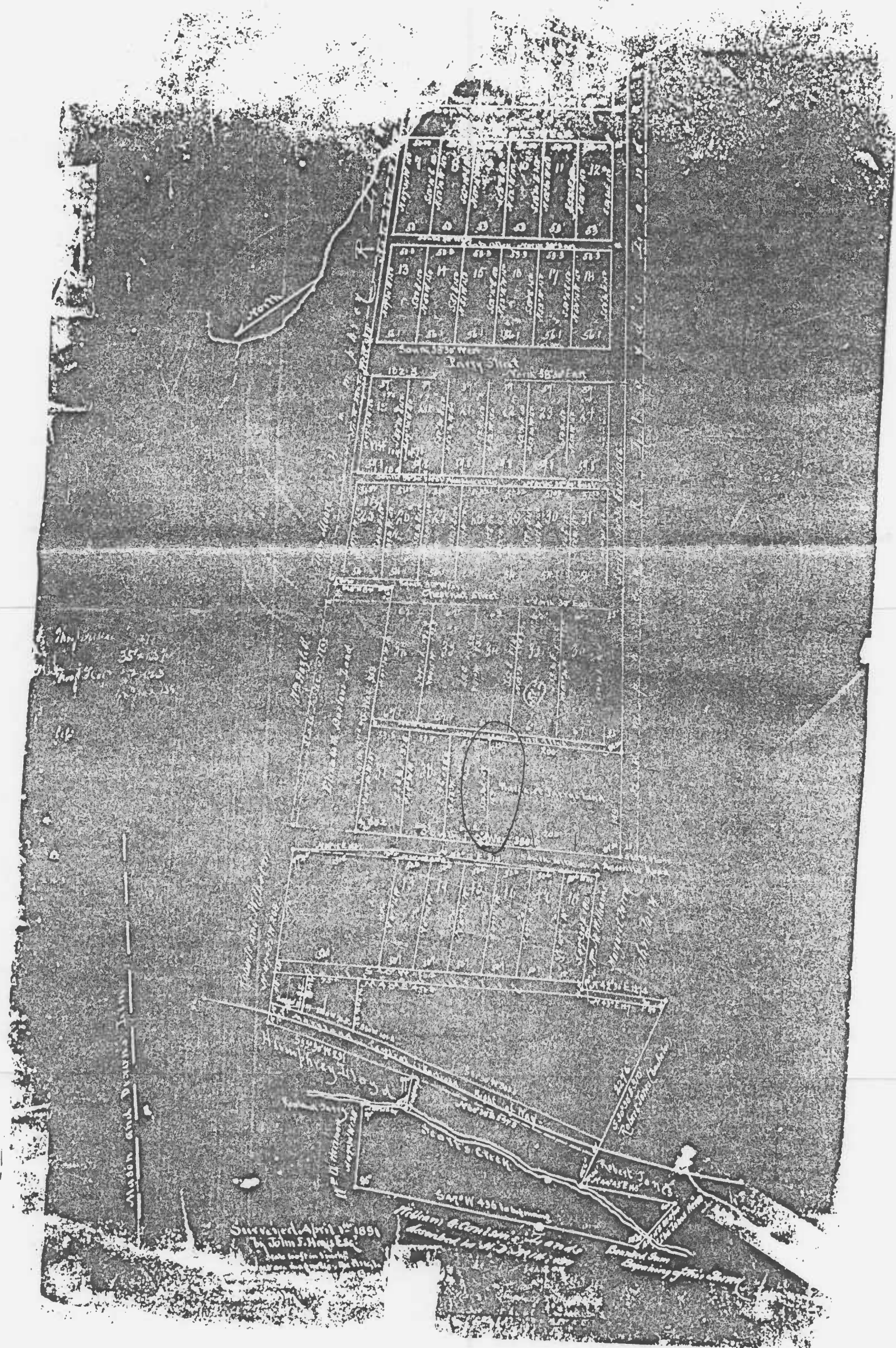
Conversations with Mrs. Marion Scaborough, June 20, June 22, July 25, and August 1, 1995 regarding Parry family history.

Land Records, Harford County Courthouse.

Harford County Historical Society Archives.

Various conversations with area residents for a contextual history of the inventory structures.

PLAT of SOUTH DELTA LAND COMPANY! 1891





Apr 1969

Thomas Williams House
Stanford County, Maryland
Dramatic View

3/95

Maryland SHPO

~~Chris Walters, Stanford County Dept. of~~
View east from Main Street

1/1